1: Drew G-3 (1862-1872) 1875 AVI Kashmir AVI

They are rather surly in disposition having that
181 kind of independence which consists in liking to be left alone and to have as little as possible to do with other races. When, however, one does come in contact with them, they are not bad to deal with.

291 Those who live down below and come up to the Middle Mountains for the summer dress somewhat scantily; they have loose short pyjamas; the upper part of the body is often bare; but there is a lūi, or blanket, in reserve, which is commonly put over the head, and hangs down behind. Those who are settled farther among the mountains (and these Gujars are found in Kashmir, if not beyond,) adopt a dress more like that of their neighbours, better suited for severe weather.

233 Wherever I have met the Gujars, I have found them to be possessors of herds of buffaloes, and to drive these, as the spring and summer advanced, into the higher mountain pastures. In the beginning of May I met many about Bhadarwāh who had just arrived from below; they had with them their wives and families, spinning wheels, churns, and other helps for getting a
[234] living. Their gains are derived chiefly from the sale of ghi, or
[438] clarified butter, the preparation of which occupies them continually during their stay among these summer pastures. They are generally in communication with traders of the towns below for its sale, having often, I think, received advances in anticipation of the season's yield.

197 Their language is not the same everywhere; that depends on the country they are settled in—not that which they come to in their summer wanderings, but where their house, their winter home, is. Thus there are Gujars in Kashmir who speak Kashmiri, while those who come to the Middle Mountains speak a mixed dialect of Panjābi, or Dogri, and Pahāri. These have, however, some words peculiar to themselves. I heard the following half dozen in the mouths of some Gujars, from near Budil, which may be worth preserving:

Mother	āli.	*Son's wife*	bau.
Sister	bebe and bībi.	*Husband's sister*	nand.
Son	gadara.	*To milk*	molna.
Daughter	gadari.	*To be milked*	milna.

1: Drew G-3 (1862-1872) 1875 AVI Kashmir AVI

winter. I hear that snow gets to be 3 feet deep and stays 4 or 5 months, and that there is a good chance of it falling at unseasonable times besides. This and a want of sun make it difficult for the crops to ripen. The sunshine is intercepted, not only by the clouds that the mountains attract, but also by the mountains themselves, which shut in the valley so closely. At Atholi I found that the average angular elevation of the visible horizon—that is, of the mountain-summits all round—was 18°. This want of sunshine affects the fruits, which do not well ripen, though some fruit-trees, especially walnut trees, are common. 132

Pādar is one of the few places where I have met with the edible pine, *Pinus Gerardiana;* it is a large spreading tree with smooth bark; scattered individuals of it are found in the forest.* Wild carraway grows here, and is gathered in quantities to be carried to Jummoo for sale; the price in Pādar is about eightpence a pound. 137 222 438

The district we are now in is one of those where deodar forests occur in such positions as make it practicable to fell the trees for timber for use in the Panjāb. The necessary condition is that the slope on which the trees grow should be so near a large stream that without an extreme amount of labour the logs can be moved or slid, without fear of splitting, into the water, where they will float away down the stream. 313

Since the beginning of British rule in the Panjāb the demand for deodar timber has been great. No tree grows in any quantity in the Panjāb which will produce beams fit for a large building. Hence in former times to some extent, but still more since the British came there, the Panjāb has called on the Himalayas to supply it with timber; of all the Himalayan trees the deodar has been proved to be the best to resist the destructive insects, especially the white ants, which abound in the plains.

In the course of years the most favourably situated deodar forests in the Chināb Valley have been felled, and there now remain chiefly trees which either are of a less girth than can be

* The only other part where I have found this tree is near Dārlyān, in the Astor country, as mentioned in Chapter XVII.

1: Drew G-3 (1862-1872) 1875 AV1 Kashmir AV1

CHAPTER VII.

MARCH FROM JUMMOO TO KASHMIR.

ROUTES FROM THE PLAINS TO SIRĪNAGAR, IN KASHMIR — PREPARATIONS FOR THE JOURNEY — JUMMOO TO AKHNŪR; ONE MARCH — TIMBER CATCHING AT AKHNŪR — AKHNŪR TO RĀJĀORĪ; FIVE MARCHES — RĀJĀORĪ TO SIRĪNAGAR; EIGHT MARCHES.

AFTER the Middle Mountains, the next tract that will have our attention is Kashmir. Before, however, beginning on that country, I propose to give, in this separate chapter, some account of the roads, but especially of one of them, between the Panjāb and Kashmir, both for an example of the kind of travelling one experiences in such countries as these, and for the sake of connecting in the reader's mind those parts which up till now we have dwelt on with the countries beyond. 487 494

ROUTES FROM THE PLAINS TO SIRINAGAR, IN KASHMIR.

The statement of the number of routes between the plains and Kashmir may be varied, the number may be made greater or less, according as one takes in or leaves out the less frequented, difficult, roads, and according to whether one counts the combinations that may be made by following first one route, then by a cross-road joining another. In the Political Map are shown six or seven routes that start from various parts of the plains and unite at Sirīnagar the capital of Kashmir, and in Appendix IV. the marches in each route are given in detail.

The various roads are used in different degrees and for different purposes.

The road from Jummoo by Banihāl is the chief commercial route. It has become so for the reason that its starting-point in the hills is not very far from Amritsar, the emporium of the Panjāb, between which place and Jummoo there has long been a close commercial connection, while the road is open for more [438] months of the year than some of the others.

1: Drew G-3 (1862-1872) 1875 AV1 Kashmir AV1

423 properties are recognized by the marks that are cut on the logs
313 in the forest; each owner, having his agent at Akhnūr and other landing-places, manages to collect his own; the swimmers (*tārū* is the word they are called by) bring in all indiscriminately, and the payments made by any munshī will be adjusted afterwards.

In this way thousands of logs are caught every season; 20,000 logs belonging to the Maharaja's Forest Department, have been secured in one year; these would average 20 or 25 cubic feet of timber, and would have a value of more than 20,000*l*.

313 Many logs get fast in the middle course of the river, become stranded, or fixed between rocks, or otherwise entangled, and are left by the receding flood. For these, on the waters lessening in the autumn, men are sent up along the river bank, to disengage them and roll them to where they may again be started, or to a place whence they will be carried down by the next summer's flood.

The next stage in the timber-business is to concentrate the logs, especially to bring down to Akhnūr those that have been caught at the upper stations. This is done on the force of the current slightly moderating (as it will when a few cloudy days lessen the snow-melting), by forming small rafts of from two to four logs each, and guiding them down between the projecting cliffs of the narrow channel, and over the successive rapids that rock-ledges at intervals have made. It is a service of some danger. Two men guide the raft with bamboo poles, ready, with their sarnās, to take to the torrent if by chance the raft should be forced against the rock. When this happens the logs will be separated, and if the men have the good fortune to escape, they will again make to them to bring them in separately, and claim the wages which for this, too, are fixed as by measurement. Great nerve and pluck are often shown in the management of these rafts, and, dangerous
[438] though the work is, accidents are not common. Collected at Akhnūr, the timber is either sold there or made up into the larger rafts—of 50 or 60 logs—of which the lower course of the river will allow the passage, and floated down some 50 miles, to Wazīrābād, on the Grand Trunk Road, whence it will be distributed over the Panjāb.

3: Imperial Gazetteer G-3 (1889-95) 1909 AV1 Kashmir AV1

are found mainly in the Jasrota district on the Rāvi river, where there are about 3,200 acres of mixed forest which contain the so-called male kind (*Dendrocalamus strictus*). They are saleable at a good price, but are at present subject to much injury from the Gūjar tribes, who hack them for fodder for their cattle. The grass areas are mostly blanks inside *deodār* and other forests, which are used as grazing-grounds by the villagers. 137 313

Production. 313 438

In the Kashmīr Valley the forests supply timber and fire-wood for local use and also logs for export. During the past few years *deodār* sleepers have been exported down the Jhelum river, the sleepers paying very well, though the quality is not so good as in other districts. Little *deodār* is used in Srīnagar in comparison with blue pine, which, being both very durable and cheaper than *deodār*, is the favourite building material. From Udhampur both logs and sleepers of *deodār* are exported down the Chenāb to Wazīrābād. The trees being of better quality, higher prices are obtained for the produce than for that of Kashmīr. From Muzaffarābād timber in the log and sawn into sleepers is exported down the Jhelum. The sleepers are entirely of *deodār*, but logs of both blue and long-leaved pine are also sent down in small quantities. These three districts, Kāmrāj, Udhampur, and Muzaffarābād, give the greater part of the forest revenue, which amounted to 9·8 lakhs in 1904–5, while the expenditure was 3 lakhs.

Improvements. 313

Up to the present, owing to the weakness of the forest establishment, little has been done in the matter of artificial reproduction of *deodār*, nor is it necessary. Owing to the protective measures already taken, the three important species, *deodār*, blue pine, and the long-leaved pine, are rapidly filling up blanks in the forests. The reproduction of *deodār* by natural means, whether in Kashmīr, Udhampur, or any other district, is remarkable, nor is the blue pine at all backward, while in the Kotli and Naoshera *tahsīls* of Bhimbar district the restocking of blanks inside and outside the forests is all that can be desired. Since the last great seed year of 1897 myriads of self-sown *chīl* have appeared and are now fine healthy plants, ranging from 6 to 9 inches in height, so that unless destructive fires occur there is little or nothing to be done in the matter of restocking denuded areas or blanks. So far fire protection has been unnecessary and hardly anything has been expended on it, and the only parts protected are the Kotli *tahsīl* forests. The greatest need at present is protection from the damage done by graziers.